

Serial No.: 09/506,361  
Amendment and Response to Final Office Action

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Remarks

A. Status

Claims 17, 32, 33, 54, 59-61, and 69-80 were pending. In this Response, claims 54, 59-61, 69-72, and 75-79 are being canceled. In this Response, claims 73, 74, and 80 are amended. No new matter was added. Claims 17, 32, 33, 73, 74, and 80 will now be pending.

As stated above, the present application has a pending Petition for Revival. Applicant asks that this Response be considered with that Petition.

B. Allowable Subject Matter

The Patent Office indicates that claims 17, 32, and 33 are allowed. [Office Action, page 2]. The Patent Office also states that claims 73, 74, and 80 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. [Office Action, page 3].

C. Section 103

Claims 54, 59-61, 69-72, and 75-79 stand rejected as being allegedly obvious in view of US Patent Nos. 5,480,203 and 2,766,501. Applicant respectfully disagrees with these rejections. In order to more swiftly advance prosecution, however, those claims have been canceled without prejudice. The Section 103 rejections are therefore moot.

D. Claims 73, 74, and 80

Applicant has amended claims 73, 74, and 80 to put them into independent form. Accordingly, all pending claims—claims 17, 32, 33, 73, 74, and 80—have been indicated as being allowable, as discussed above. Applicant respectfully requests a swift notice of allowance, along with confirmation that this application has been revived.

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Conclusion

Applicant believes that these remarks fully respond to all outstanding matters for this application. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections of all claims be withdrawn so the claims may pass to issuance.

Should the Examiner have any questions, please contact the undersigned attorney at 512-536-3018.

Respectfully submitted,

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